

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH FROM AMBASSADOR HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: TECH MNUC PARM FR US

SUBJ: NON-PROLIFERATION EXPERTS MEETING

REF: (A) PARIS 20782; B) STATE 168596

1. ON JULY 22 GIRAUD CALLED ON ME TO RESPOND TO MY APPROACH (REFTEL A) ON THE PAPER HE HAD GIVEN YOU. GIRAUD SAID THAT HE ENVISAGES THE FOLLOWING FOR NEXT WEEK'S MULTILATERAL MEETING. EACH DELEGATION WILL EXPLAIN ITS INTENTIONS CONCERNING HOW TO PROMOTE NUCLEAR ENERGY WITHOUT RISKING PROLIFERATION. BECAUSE THERE WILL BE DIFFERING VIEWS, IT WOULD NOT BE WORTHWHILE TO CIRCULATE A PAPER (PRESUMABLY HIS) IN ADVANCE. AFTER EACH DELEGATION HAS PRESENTED ITS VIEWS, A SYNTHESIS DRAFT WILL THEN BE PREPARED FOR DISCUSSION. HE REITERATED THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION OF CIRCULATING EITHER A FRENCH OR A FRENCH/US PAPER IN ADVANCE.

2. TURNING TO THE MORE GENERAL SUBJECT OF THE CONFERENCE, GIRAUD SAID THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD SINCERELY SHARES THE OBJECTIVES OF PRESIDENT CARTER. FRANCE, BECUASE OF ITS POSITION AS ON OF THE MORE

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MODEST NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES, HOPES MORE THAN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES THAT ADDITIONAL NATIONS WILL NOT ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. GIRAUD SAID THAT THE FRENCH ARE HOPING FOR A CONVERGENCE OF US AND FRENCH VIEWS.

3. GIRAUD CONTINUED THAT HE HAD EXAILED CAREFULLY AMBASSADOR SMITH'S COMMENTS AND CHANGES TO HIS PAPER.

GIRAUD SAID THAT ON SOME POINTS WE SHARE THE SAME OPINION, SOME OF THE US MODIFICATIONS ARE ACCEPTABLE, AND PERHAPS IT IS TRUE THAT THE US POSITION WAS NOT WELL PRESENTED IN THE GIRAUD DRAFT.

4. GIRAUD SAID THAT THERE WERE TWO IMPORTANT MODIFICATIONS IN THE US COMMENTS:

A. THE US COMMENTS DROPPED THE AFFIRMATION THAT THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY IS BASED ON NATURAL URANIUM AND REPROCESSING. I INTERRUPTED TO POINT OUT THAT IT IS NOT REPEAT NOT A FACT THAT THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRIES OF ALL NATIONS ARE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT REPROCESSING IS AN INTEGRAL PART. I SAID THAT MANY NATIONS HAVE DEVELOPED THEIR PLANS FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSING THE REPROCESSING ISSUE.

B. GIRAUD SAID THAT SINCE THE NATURAL URANIUM/REPROCESSING CYCLE IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR FRANCE, THERE SHOULD NOT BE CONDITIONS ON IT. HE CONTINUED THAT PERHAPS THE PARTIES CAN REFLECT MORE ON THIS, NOTING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CANADIANS MAY MAKE SOME CHANGES IN THEIR POSITION.

5. GIRAUD THEN REITERATED HIS ARGUMENT THAT THE ADDITIONAL CAPACITY FOR THE LA HAGUE REPROCESSING PLANT IS ESSENTIAL FOR FRENCH DOMESTIC NEEDS BY AROUND 1985-86.

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6. I THEN TOOK UP WITH GIRAUD THE SOMETIMES INACCURATE PORTRAYAL OF THE US POSITION ON BREEDERS (PARA 5, REF B) POINTING OUT THAT WE HAVE NOT MADE A DECISION THAT PLUTONIUM WILL NEVER BE USED AND THAT BREEDERS WILL NOT BE DEVELOPED OR EVER COMMERCIALIZED. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION GIRAUD ADMITTED THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE US POSITION. GIRAUD GRANTED THAT THE US POLICY INITIATIVES IN NONPROLIFERATION HAVE HAD SOME IMPACT, INCLUDING THE FRENCH DECISION TO MAKE NO FURTHER CONTRACTS FOR THE EXPORT OF REPROCESSING PLANTS. GIRAUD ADDED THAT THE FRENCH HAD LED THE FRG TO ADOPT THE SAME POLICY.

7. GIRAUD CONFIRMED THAT HE WILL PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS NEXT WEEK. QUAI TELLS US HE WILL HEAD THE FRENCH DELEGATION WHILE PAGNIEZ CHAIRS THE OVERALL CONFERENCE. BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN DELEGATIONS TO DISCUSS MULTILATERAL CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED FOR 1000, TUESDAY, JULY 26. WE STILL HAVE NO TIME FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH'S MEETING WITH SOUTOU. LUNCH WITH GERMANS CONFIRMED FOR 1230, TUESDAY, JULY 26.

JAPANESE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR 1500, TUESDAY,
JULY 26 AND CANADIANS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR 1730,
TUESDAY, JULY 26. HARTMAN

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